

Topics For Follow-up Neighborhood Watch Meetings

Holding regular meetings or neighborhood events at least twice a year is crucial for maintaining an **effective** Neighborhood Watch.

Crime prevention goes far beyond just avoiding residential burglaries. Therefore, it's important to be educated on a variety of different topics. Topic selection will vary with the interest of your Neighborhood Watch group. Here are some topic suggestions for future meetings:

- Bicycle Safety and Security
- Car Seat Safety – REMSA
- Child Safety
- CPR and First Aid – Red Cross
- Drugs
- Fire Prevention – Reno Fire Dept.
- Fraud and Identity Theft
- Gangs
- Gun Safety
- Internet Safety
- Mail Theft – U.S. Postal Service
- Personal and Vacation Safety
- Residential (Home) Security
- Safety Tips for Seniors
- Vandalism and Graffiti Prevention
- Vehicle Theft/Burglary

Remember—suspicious activity is different than a crime in progress. . .

PHONE NUMBERS Emergency - 911

Non Emergency Police Line
(775) 334-2121



Crime Prevention Tips From
National Crime Prevention Council
1000 Connecticut Avenue, NW, 13th Floor
Washington, DC 20036
www.ncpc.org



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

"Keeping it Active"



Reno Police Department

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH *“Keeping It Active”*

Neighborhood Activities

The list of possible activities is only limited by one's imagination. Here are just some suggestions as to what you can do to increase participation in your **Neighborhood Watch** group, encourage a sense of community, and keep it going.

Community Events

Neighborhood Clean-Up – Trash lying around a neighborhood is unsightly and potentially dangerous. Why not have a Neighborhood Clean-Up Day? The City of Reno often helps sponsor such events, and local businesses will also help by donating trash bags, gloves, etc. for your clean-up effort.

Recycling Program – Does your NW group need additional funds for NW signs or paper goods for your NW picnic? Why not agree to earn money by recycling? With adult supervision, this is a great children's project. It teaches community pride and how to be ecologically responsible at the same time.



Neighborhood Garage Sale – Get together with the neighbors for a common garage sale. Arrange to donate unsold items to charity.

Social Events

Pot Luck – Do you have a favorite dish you like to make? Why not have a pot luck during your next NW meeting? For added enjoyment, have each participant bring along the recipe for the dish they make.

Summer BBQ/Picnic – Have several new neighbors just moved in? Why not welcome them to the neighborhood by having a picnic? If your own backyard is too small, a local park will work just fine.



Ice Cream Social – An ice cream social is a simple yet inexpensive way to have fun with the neighbors. Use disposable bowls and spoons for easy clean-up.

Neighborhood Carnival/Block Party – Are there lots of children in your neighborhood? Why not have a block party or a carnival? With adult supervision, you can have a pet parade, face painting, a wet balloon toss, a jump-rope contest, three-legged race, etc., and share lots of yummy food with the neighbors!

Holiday Decorating – Many people enjoy decorating for different holidays. Why not have a decorating contest for your favorite holiday? This is a great way to liven up a neighborhood.

Other Networking Ideas

Every neighborhood has untapped resources and common needs. Most people face the same everyday problems, but don't know where to turn for help. For instance, do you ever need to find someone to watch your pet when you go away for the weekend? Do you need a ride to work one day because your car is being repaired? Is there an elderly person who lives alone and needs their walk shoveled after a snowstorm? Find out who is able to solve what problem and create a list – a resource network. It can include who's available for child care, for pet sitting, for carpooling, etc.



NOTE: Not all ideas work for all neighborhoods, since each has its own unique characteristics and people. Discuss your ideas with your Neighborhood Watch members to determine what will work best for your community.